

The Palmetto Partisan

Three time winner of the
DeWitt Smith Jobe, national
newsletter award.



The official publication of the SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Volume 6, Number 1 January/February 1988

Columbia

WADE HAMPTON CAMP

The Columbia Camp sponsored its annual Confederate Ball. The event, which drew Compatriots from all over the State, was held at Bell Camp in Columbia.

Camp. In fact, a large number of the signatures on the recently acquired petitions (about 1,300) were from Lexington and Richland counties.

The next meeting of the Camp will feature one the Historian from the Kennesaw Mountain National Military Park, who will speak about that battle.

funds and may be able to locate some contributors.

Cmt. Horace Rudisill proposed that in the Spring the Camp sponsor a bus tour of some of the Virginia battlefields, and Cmts. Mike King and Pat Sowell gave a lengthy report on the recent UDC convention in Florence.

Afterwards Com. Hal Bald-



Gov. James B. Edwards (right) addresses the 16th Regiment at their annual dinner, while his wife, Ann, looks on. The BUTLER GUARDS served as uniformed Color Guard replete with drummers.

Most of those present were in Confederate uniforms and hoop skirts of the period. The revelers dined, danced and "Virginia Reeled" to the 19th century music of the 11TH NORTH CAROLINA BAND.

The 11TH is a reenactment society that plays only Southern music on authentic instruments.

The effort to preserve the Confederate flag has been a top priority of the Wade Hampton

Florence

PEE DEE RIFLES CAMP

The Camp met in October. Cmt. T.C. Griffin reported that the Stockade committee was working on the project, but he has not heard anything lately from the city council. It was reported that Nicholas P. Picerno is willing to help raise

win recounted the reenactment of the Battle of Sharpsburg and the 21 mile march from Harper's Ferry to Sharpsburg, Maryland, which some of the Camp members participated in.

New officers were installed at the November meeting. Cmt. William Tisdale took command of the 35-man Camp in ceremonies which also included the presentation of a new set of miniature

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THE
PALMETTO PARTISAN

The official magazine of the
South Carolina Division,
Sons of Confederate Veterans

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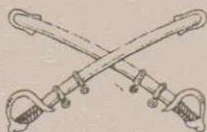
The PALMETTO PARTISAN welcomes Letters to the Editor, Your Confederate Ancestor articles, FORUM articles, unsolicited manuscripts and photographs. All correspondence should include the authors name, address and phone number, and should be sent to the PALMETTO PARTISAN, 875 Altamont Rd., Greenville, SC, 29609.

Subjects for the FORUM column should be of interest and pertinence to the Division membership at-large. FORUM articles must be written by a member of the Division, and should be no longer than 800 words. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Articles will be retained by the PP and cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

To you Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history.

Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee
Confederate States Army



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MONUMENTAL EFFORTS

It can be correctly said that the Sons of Confederate Veterans is in the monument business. Virtually every Southern city, town and village is centered on a "Monument to the Confederate Dead".

Prior to World War II, Confederate Memorial Day was universally celebrated in Dixie by a solemn gathering in the shadow of one of these granite obelisks to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of the Southern soldier.

A visit to any War Between the States battlefield will present one with a view of hundreds of monuments, from the simple grave stone to magnificent equestrian statuary.

Most of these were erected by the United Confederate Veterans or its successor the SCV. All were meant as a reminder of the courage, dedication and steadfast devotion of the Confederate soldier.

In modern times this view of Southern valor has been faded by the harsh light of recent belligerencies and contemporary racial politics. Now, the fact that the emblem of their valor - the Battleflag - is displayed as prominently as the United States and South Carolina flags is objectionable to some progressive Southern politicians.

What this means is that the SCV, and all who love the South, must get back into the monument business. I do not mean that we should build more of these stone sentries; the legion that now stand watch of Southern memory are sufficient for the duty. Rather, we need monuments made living by the service rendered to the Cause; made living by taking our stand for the Flag, taking our stand for accuracy in school textbooks, taking our stand for respect for Southern valor.

It is time to take our stand, to live and die for Dixie.

A Quote of Note

Camp Commander John Britton Wells, of the Gen. Humphrie Marshall Camp speaking at the 1987 General Convention..

Our Camp is in the most economically depressed county of Kentucky. Two weeks before coming to this convention, 72 of the members met to decide how we would vote on this issue. With 25% of the membership unemployed we voted unanimously to accept any dues increase necessary to save the VETERAN - unlike [most civic clubs] we have a job to do.

GREENVILLE AND LANCASTER HOLD BANQUETS COLUMBIA HOLDS CONFEDERATE BALL

*A digest of dispatches
from the field*

continued from page 1

Confederate flags to the members of the local United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The flags are to replace old ones that had become too worn out to use and will be used to mark the graves of local Confederates. The presentation also included a wooden box which will be used for storage.

Greenville

16TH REGIMENT, SOUTH CAROLINA
VOLUNTEERS

The highlight of the Greenville Camp's calendar is the annual "An Evening With..." dinner. This year the guest was **Dr. James B. Edwards**, President of the M. U. of S. C.. Gov. Edwards's topic was the "History of the M.U.S.C. in the Confederate Cause".

About two-hundred, many in Confederate uniform and period dress, turned out to the Poinsett Club to hear Dr. Edwards.

The "Palmetto Light Artillery String Band and Men's Chorus" - which consisted entirely of **Chaplain Terry Grissop** and **Cmt. Glenn Dedmont** with a guitar - presented a selection of Southern songs. The hall was decorated with replica Confederate and State flags from **Cmt. Jim Cevalasco's** collection.

In September **Mr. Bob Stoner** spoke to the Camp about his personal collection of Confederate uniforms, swords and firearms. Part of Mr. Stoner's collection is the tunic belonging to an officer from Newberry.

At this meeting the Camp also passed a resolution calling on the CONFEDERATE VETERAN to refrain from using the term "Civil War".

About fifty of the Compatriots, their family and friends

attended the annual "Musket and Cannon Shoot" at **Past Com. Roy Christie's** "A Field of Dead Yankees" in Hickory Tavern. The participants watched a drill demonstration by the P.L.A. using a 3" Ordinance Rifle. There was also a range set up where interested persons could fire replica and authentic rifles at a silhouette target of "Bloody Abe".

At the October meeting the Camp heard a report on the recent re-enactment of the firing on Fort Sumter. **Cmt. Glen Dedmont** and **Chaplain Terry Grissop** sang a few War era songs.

The Camp is presently discussing changing its fiscal-year to 1 August to 31 July in order to coincide with the National HQ's.

Lancaster

WITHERSPOON/BARNES CAMP

The effort to save the flag has been a top priority of the Witherspoon/Barnes. The Camp's charter members co-signed letters to every member of the Lancaster legislative delegation asking them to support the flag and work for its preservation. One of the legislators responded in a letter committing himself to support the Flag.

Camp members chose their officers for the coming year in October. **Everette Gardner** was re-elected Camp Commander.

In November the Camp held its annual Ladies Night with a special dinner. The program featured **Dr. James O. Farmer**, Professor of History at U.S.C.L.. Dr. Farmer spoke on the "Metaphysical Confederate". The pretext of his talk was **Dr. Thornwell**, a nineteenth century Lancaster minister, who was an ardent Confederate.

who was an ardent Confederate. **Div. Com. Earl Barnett** and his wife **Evelyn** were in attendance as well as the District Director of the UDC, **Mrs. Jo Aiken** and Lancaster UDC Pres. **Mrs. Leona Cunningham**. Camp officers were installed during ceremonies at this meeting.

The Camp took time at its December meeting to hold a workshop for new officers. "Rebel Slave" a movie about two slave boys who follow their masters into combat was the program for this evening.

Four new members have been added since the two year old Camp's chartering, one of whom was inducted in ceremonies during the January meeting. The new Compatriot was presented with a copy of the Camp's By-Laws, a membership certificate and pin. The Camp has set a goal of a 25% increase in membership.

Plans are already being made for Lancaster's Memorial Day, and the Camp plans to be active in the state-wide memorial day as well.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Clemson Calhoun Garris, *Real Son*, member of the Wade Hampton Camp, Columbia died in the latter days of 1987 of pneumonia.

Robert A. Kittrell, member of the 16th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp, Greenville died November 10, 1987 of complications resulting from diabetes.

Strike the tent.

FLAG STAFF UNFURLS PETITIONS

COLUMBIA -

Sam Padgett, Chairman of the S.C. Div. Save the Flag Committee, has announced that the petition drive initiated last year is almost completed. The committee is now planning to present the signatures to Sen. Glen McConnell and other Flag supporters in the State Legislature.

To date well over 15,000 citizens have placed their names on one petitions distributed around that State by active SCV and UDC members.

Of that number over 3,000 names were gathered in Richland and Lexington counties alone by members of the Wade Hampton Camp. A large number were also gathered by the Pee Dee Rifles Camp in Florence, which set up a table at the Southern 500 stockcar race and collected many signatures. The newly chartered Sumter Camp did a "tremendous job" according to Chm. Padgett.

At this juncture committee Chm. Padgett reports that he has been able to survey most of the legislators and many of them seem to be supportive of keeping the flag in place.

Sen. Horace Smith of Spartanburg said, "I will never vote to take it down.". Another strong supporter is Sen. Alexander Stephens MacCauley, a Democrat from Anderson.

As a testament to the power of the petition is the case of Sen. Phil Leventis who turned 180 degrees when confronted by the large number of names from his district. "I'm on y'all's side," he told Chm. Padgett.

However, Chm. Padgett emphasizes that it is imperative that the constituent members of the S.C. Div. contact their respective Gen-

eral Assemblymen and survey them on their stand. "They will talk - and listen - to someone from their district," said Chm. Padgett, "before they will talk to me.". "Let's don't rest too soon, like the second day at Gettysburg," he cautioned.

Even though many have already contacted their representatives in the past it is important that they do so once again. Every man should write all of his representatives - both House and Senate - to encourage them to support the flag, and get a response.

Some Compatriots are in the enviable position of living in a district whose politicians are already freinds of the Flag. Nonetheless, a call and letter from a constituent will give them added resolve and ammunition should the issue come up in the Legislature.

Because some of those who otherwise support the Cause are in

contested seats, then let the Legislature put the question to a referendum, thereby allowing the people to settle the issue once and for all.

Flag Poll

A November 1987 poll conducted by the STATE newspaper came to some interesting conclusions about how South Carolinians view the display of the Confederate Battleflag.

The poll concluded that, "the Confederate Flag is growing in popularity, with 75 percent of the respondents saying it should continue to fly over the State House and 18 percent saying it should be removed.

"In an earlier poll, 60 percent thought it should stay, and 28 percent said it should be removed."

Confederate Veterans Reject Joint Gathering With Grand Army of the Republic

BILOXI, MISS., JUNE 5 (BY A.P.)-

The United Confederate Veterans, in 40th reunion, today rejected unanimously the proposal that they march in a joint gathering with the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic.

They likewise adopted a resolution by Maj. John R. Kennedy of Tuscaloosa, Ala., expressing their sentiments over the offer of the Grand Army of the Republic to march with the remnants of the Southern army provided the Confederate flag be omitted from the parade.

There was no official indication of discontinuance of the reunions. The subject did not come up for discussion. If any marching is to be

done, it will be done behind the Stars and Bars, declare the veterans of the gray in adopting this resolution: "When the association in time has passed away, we will place in the care and keeping of our daughters and sons, our beloved Confederate flag, emblematic of all that is good and holy..., but always raised for the purpose of the freedom of liberty and love of our beautiful Southland.

"Such a meeting does not meet our approbation and no good can come of such a joint meeting."

This was a clipping from either a Ga. or S.C. newspaper found in an old scrapbook, date unknown except by deciphering the above.

BLACK, WHITE AND GREY

C. Earl Barnett

As we look back on the year 1987, we can be proud of the accomplishments of the SCV in South Carolina. We have continued to grow in membership and in new Camps. Along with this growth we have become profoundly involved in the preservation of our Confederate Heritage.

The SCV has chosen to take a high-profile position in this regard, stimulating strong support from the public across the State. As we do so, we have occasionally met with individuals who question why we are trying to preserve the flying of the Confederate Battle Flag, and the public singing of Dixie.

The only response we can give to this is to educate, educate, educate! We will not abdicate the flag of our noble ancestors to the present day hate groups, bands of the worst misfits in our society. They are motivated only by racial and religious hatred, and have absolutely no conception of the cause for which our ancestors fought.

They have no conception of the relationship between blacks and whites in the South before and during the War. They have never understood that we have more in common with Southern blacks than we do with northern whites.

We, however, understand these things. Just as we understand that we cannot preserve and promote our Southern Heritage without acknowledging that blacks as well as whites are involved. There has always been a symbiotic relationship in the South, sometimes willing and sometimes not. We must find again that common ground that comes not from the "Old South" of myth, nor from the "New South" of materialism, but from the *True South* that is the very essence of our spirit. Our ancestors were true to that, as we must be.

Gentlemen, if the SCV is simply a distinguished social club where we gather to sit around talking about how bad things are now and how good things were then, the cause is doomed to die with us. We must not, we cannot, we will not allow this to happen.

We are firmly committed to an active defense from the savage attacks upon our Heritage -- our birthright. And, with the grace of God, we will be true to this each day of our lives. On the matter of our heritage, though, there can be no retreat and no surrender.

A HISTORY LESSON

Political Science Professor: *Why was South Carolina the first State to secede from the Union.*

Colonel Claghorn: *You see, sir, she was prematurely grey.*

National Digest



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO MEET

The Executive Council of the SCV will meet in Louisville, Kentucky to consider matters of importance to the SCV prior to the Columbia Convention in August. The meeting will take place February 12 -13.

One of the issues is the appeal of John Hurley who was expelled from his Camp in Washington, D.C., also likely to come up is the proposed Permanent Headquarters in Franklin, Tennessee.

If you wish to voice an opinion about these or any other concerns contact; Jack E. Marlar, Commander, ANV, 1213 Greenpond Rd., Fountain Inn, SC 29644, (862-3946).

CAROLINIANS RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARDS

The 1987 Convention in Mobile, honored several South Carolinians for their achievements.

Paul Trouche (Charleston) - *Dixie Club* for recruiting.

Edgar Dallery (Sumter) - *Silver Dixie Club* for recruiting 10 - 25 men.

16TH REVIEW, E.M. Moore, Editor (Greenville) - *Dr. James M. Edwards Newsletter Award*, for Camps with more than 50 members.

Jack E. Marlar (Greenville) - *Meritorius Service Medal, and Gold Award*.

QUILT WINNER ANNOUNCED

The PLA Ladies Auxilliary has announced that Mr. Joe Skovick of Santee was the winner of the raffle for the Secession Quilt. The ladies had sewn the quilt throughout 1987. The proceeds from the raffle, over \$2,300, will be put towards a caisson for the battery.

FRANKLIN FINANCING PROPOSED

In a two part article in the *REBEL YELL* - a Camp newsletter from Oklahoma City - La. Div. Com. Ed Cailleteau called for each Division to raise and contribute \$4,500. The money would be targeted for a permanent headquarters building on Winstead Hill in Franklin, Tenn.

STATEWIDE SERVICES SLATED FOR STATEHOUSE

Over 100 active duty military will participate in the State Memorial Day services

The South Carolina Division, in conjunction with the United Daughters of the Confederacy, reenactment societies and other historical groups, is planning an event of "major historic and patriotic significance," according to Chairwoman Mary K. Sadler. The program to honor South Carolina's Confederate dead will take place May 14, 1988 at the capitol in Columbia.

Governor Carroll A. Campbell has been invited to be the keynote speaker. Over one hundred reenactors in Confederate uniform together with their wives in hoop skirts, and at least one hundred

The entire program will be video taped for use at the SCV General Convention - which will also be in Columbia the following August.

Division Commander Earl Barnett is requesting statewide involvement by all SCV Camps toward making this a memorable event.

Com. Barnett requests that each Camp be represented according to its size. Any member wishing to volunteer (or member's wife) should contact Com. Barnett, 112 Hackamore Ct., Simpsonville, SC, 29681.

Yesterdays Restaurant will cater Confederate fried steak, blackeyed peas and iced tea for \$4.00 per person.

The Committee will hold its next meeting February 20, 11:00 a.m. at the War Memorial Building in Columbia. All Camps should be represented.

A solicitation has been sent to all South Carolina SCV. Already, several Camps have each contributed \$100.00.

Suggestions and donations of time are invited immediately. Please contact Mrs. M.K. Sadler, Chairwoman, Confederate Memorial Day Program, 2400 Ashland Rd., #I-8, Columbia, SC, 29210 (772- 1793).

ments. It is published as a service to those who may not know the final resting place of their Confederate ancestors.

Capt. B.S. Burnett, Co. E, 1st S.C.
W.W. Sanders, Co. G, 2nd S.C.
E. Busbe, Co. G or C, S.C.
O.N. Gallman, Co. G, 4th S.C.
Ben Pritchard, Co. B, 6th S.C.
S. Estridge, Co. G, 1st S.C.
G.B. Odanion, Co. E, 2nd S.C. Artillery
G.W. Marlin, Artillery, Mathews, S.C.
P. Pullman, 1st S.C. Artillery
W.G. Booms, A Battalion, S.C.
Jeff Ketts, S.C. Artillery
Geo. Dicks, Co. G, 1st S.C.
F. Wilkes, Co. H, 1st S.C.
Kinsey, Co. E, 1st S.C.
A.W. Davis, Co. D, 19th S.C.
D.W. McCarty, 7th S.C.

For more information contact the PALMETTO PARTISAN.

CAROLINA CAVALRY

Any member having knowledge or information about veterans of companies of the 4th, 5th and 6th SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY please contact Col. W.L. Shank, Rt. 2, Box 433, Mineral, Virginia.

He is a fellow Compatriot working on his fourth book on the Confederacy. This one will include information on these, and other, regiments.

Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

COLUMBIA CEMETERY SERVICES

March 20, 1988 the Wade Hampton Chapter, UDC will dedicate a gravestone for the tomb of the Unknown South Carolina Soldier. The ceremonies will take place in the Confederate Section of Elmwood Cemetery in Columbia at 3:00. Sen. John Courson will be the keynote speaker.

The following committees need volunteers:

- Parade, Assembly/Dispersal
- Parade Participation
- Parade Route Security
- Communications - SCV
- Publicity, Media and Public Relations
- Restroom/Emergency Procedures
- Food Services
- Photography/Videotaping
- Historical/Educational
- Entertainment
 - A.) Re-enactment Camps
 - B.) Dancing/Music
- Appreciation (parade participants, speakers and contributors)
- Program, Elmwood Memorial Service
- Program, Statehouse Memorial Service
- Artists/Crafts
- Reception/Hospitality
- Invitations
- Decorating
 - A.) Elmwood
 - B.) Statehouse
- Cleanup

All men are asked to volunteer.

active duty military are expected. In addition the National Guard and the Senior Class of The Citadel will be asked to attend.

Prior to the service there will be a parade and refreshments served at the nearby Logan School. A program of Scottish highland music and dance will be presented.

THE OCCUPANTS OF OAKWOOD

The North Carolina Division has provided a list of those men interred in the Oakwood Cemetery, High Point, North Carolina.

The following is a listing of all those from South Carolina regi-

YOUR CONFEDERATE ANCESTOR

One of Gen. Hardee's last orders is treasured by Lt. Hepburn's descendants.

In recent years the late Clement Hepburn, Robert S. Hepburn, III, James Leach and Richard H. Langston, Jr., Compatriots of the Pee Dee Rifles Camp and descendants of R.B. Hepburn, E.J.D. Munn and Reddick Langston, have shared some interesting information about their grand-fathers.

The roster of an *Historical Sketch of the Pee Dee Light Artillery* lists these three comrades along with others from the Darlington District. Known as the McIntosh Battery, the unit fought in many of the battles of the Army of Northern Virginia - Second Manassas, Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor.

Page 14 of the *Historical Sketch* describes a fierce encounter with Federal cavalry at Gaines Crossroads where four of the artillerymen were wounded - among whom were E.J.D. Munn and Reddick Langston.

The strength of the battery was crippled after three years of conflict and it was transferred to South Carolina for the defense of Charleston. The following letter is a cherished possession of Private Munn's descendents:

*(Hd Qrs) Pee Dee Arty
James Island
Sept. 20, 1864*

This is to certify that E.J.D. Munn is a member of the Pee Dee Light Artillery. He was wounded at Gaines X Roads, Va. on 24th July 1864, has since that time been absent on account of said wound. He wishes to visit Charleston for treatment. The QM at Florence will please furnish said E.J.D. Munn with transportation to Charleston.

*R.B. Hepburn
Lt., Cmdg Pee Dee Arty*

The battery, as a part HARDEE'S CORPS, faced Sherman's advance through South Carolina in 1865 and fell back before overwhelming forces into North Carolina. One of General Hardee's last orders is treasured by Lt. Hepburn's descendants (on the reverse General Lee's final order to his troops signed "R.E. Lee"). Hardee's order, dated 15 April 1865, reads:

Genl. Orders,

This command has been ordered to halt at this place for what purpose it is unknown to the Lient Gen Comdg. Even if, as is reported, certain negotiations be pending they may be broken off and every man will be needed at his post.

It is therefore criminal for any soldier to desert his colors.

*By order of
Lient Gen Hardee
W.J. Rey
Adj.*

D. Kemper

The three Confederate soldiers returned to their homes to regain a livelihood - Lt. Hepburn to Ebenezer, Pvt. Munn to Tabernacle and Pvt. Langston to Elim (communities in what would become Florence county in 1888). All three became farmers.

R.B. Hepburn was appointed the first auditor of Florence County by the Governor in 1889.

E.J.D. Munn devoted much of his time helping needy veterans obtain aid from the State. Although crippled, he was able to retain his lands until his sons were old enough to take over the farming operation.

Reddick Langston had served as wheelwright to the battery, keeping the artillery mounts, caissons and wagons repaired. It is interesting to note that he married a lady who inherited lands adjacent to R.B. Hepburn's plantation and built his home close to its boundary. Thus continued a friendship between these families which is carried on still.

In addition to farming he engaged in heavy construction - building bridges, grist mills, cotton gins and other types of heavy construction. He cut trees from his own woods and turned out four 20 foot columns on a huge mule-powered lathe. These columns support the roof at the front entrance of Ebenezer Baptist Church to the present.

The Editors encourage submissions for this column.

CONFEDERATES FIRE ON FORT SUMTER

In his sermon at the fort Parson Bill Fergusson said that, "South Carolina had a right, and a duty to secede from the Union."

Last October, 126 years after the event, Confederate cannon once again unleashed a fierce fuselade on Fort Sumter, a United States installation in Charleston harbor. While this was not an actual belligerent action the reenactment took on some very realistic aspects of a genuine 19th century military engagement.

This reenactment was part of the centennial celebration of Mount Pleasant. There were several different units participating in the event. The 2ND SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT, the 22ND SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT, the 1ST SOUTH CAROLINA and the 19TH TENNESSEE composed the infantry section. The artillery section was formed as a single six-gun battery consisting of elements of the PALMETTO LIGHT ARTILLERY, 23RD SOUTH CAROLINA, CAMPBELL'S BATTERY and the 22ND HEAVY GEORGIA ARTILLERY.

Authentic music was provided by the 11TH NORTH CAROLINA BAND, and the WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY served as color guard for the flag ceremony.

A local television station news team presented a simulated broadcast as if the engagement were a contemporary event. Their on-air personalities and staff portrayed some of the historical figures in the actual event and

modern reporters. A local men's glee club sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" over the stern objections of some of the reenactors.

The reenactors camped in a park in the center of town. With their various encampments serving as living history displays, many of the local citizens were able to learn more about the living conditions of the Southern soldier.

At 2:00 Saturday afternoon Lt. Jack Marlar, serving as Battery Commander, gave the order to commence firing. The six gun battery, located approximately 100 yards from the site of the actual battery, fired "by gun", "by section" and "by battery" to demonstrate Confederate combat techniques.

In order to replicate the actual conditions of the battle the United States Navy Demolition Team came in the day before and placed explosive charges in the tidal waters a few yards in front of the battery.

Three miles out, and just in front of Fort Sumter, the Navy set up a barge designed with explosives as well.

When the battle was engaged the barge would fire a round which would billow smoke, then, a few seconds later, the report could be heard as it echoed across the bay.

Then after just enough time for the crowd's attention to be distracted, and the hypothetical shell to reach the shoreline, a loud "thwhump" and a long geyser of water erupted in front of the main battery. The whole scenario proved to be an effective display of antebellum firepower.

Sunday morning the Confederate contingent took the boat out to Fort Sumter for a worship service conducted by Parson Bill Fergusson. The men formed up in line and marched into the Fort behind the 11TH N.C. band.

As the men reposed upon the ground Parson Fergusson preached his sermon on South Carolina's duty to secede from the Union and the Christian's duty to secede from the world. When the troops evacuated the Fort once more one of the men took to the highest parapet and proudly waved the Confederate banner.

Sunday afternoon the Confederates participated in a parade through the town to the delight of the locals.

A few weeks after the event Capt. Bert Miller of the 2ND S.C. received a letter from the United States Park Service stating that, "it was improper to conduct a religious service on U.S. government property."

The Palmetto Partisan

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